Michiel Stekelenburg Bio (English)

Guitarist and composer Michiel Stekelenburg, a well-known name in the modern jazz scene, is celebrated for his contributions to both the pop and jazz worlds. He has previously performed with international giants such as Marcus Miller and Damien Erskine, as well as national figures like Eric Vloeimans and Shirma Rouse. His debut album "Hypnos" (2011) and its successor "Layers" (2016) were lauded for innovative compositions and masterful guitar work. One of the most influential e-zines, "All About Jazz," previously wrote: 'Stekelenburg shines as composer and guitarist, and his fine band never fails to deliver'. Both albums led to successful tours, including appearances on national TV program "Vrije Geluiden" and at the prestigious North Sea Jazz Festival.

His third album, "Onoda" (2022), a trio album, reached #1 on the iTunes Jazz Charts and earned him the second place in the polls for 'best jazz guitarist in the Benelux' by the magazine Gitarist. In addition to his work as a modern jazz guitarist, Michiel has also proven himself as a composer and arranger. He has written compositions for various ensembles, including the Army Orchestra, and some of his compositions have been included in a Dutch version of the 'Jazz Real Book'.

The latest album, "Catharsis," was released in March 2024 and is the guitarist's most personal album to date. "Catharsis" is a septet album in which the compositions and arrangements take center stage. The album is centered around the theme of vulnerability and sensitivity, reflecting Michiel's inner struggle and quest for balance between the complexity of the inner world and the expectations of the outer world, the balance between vulnerability and strength.

In addition to his own projects, Michiel contributes as a sideman to various albums and performs with various artists, both in the pop and jazz worlds, earning him a lasting place in the contemporary music scene.

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